

Today, Northbrook gave an incredible gift to a very poor community in Mexico – a new ambulance. I was honored to join with Village President Gene Marks as we handed the keys over to officials from Tonatico, Mexico.

Earlier this year, President Marks mentioned that Northbrook was upgrading its ambulance as part of its normal equipment replacement cycle. After discussions with my Latino Advisory Board, we knew the perfect place to deliver the older, but fully operational vehicle: Tonatico.

Tonatico is about 70 miles southwest of Mexico City, and home to more than 10,000 people. They don't have any ambulances to serve the community, instead relying on vans with emergency lights attached.

Tonatico also is the original home of many 10th District Latino citizens, including Miguel Arizmendi of my Latino Advisory Board. Like Miguel, most Latino 10th District citizens come from only three communities in Mexico: Tonatico, La Luz and San Jose.

Miguel worked with the North Chicago Tonatico Social Club to make arrangements for the delivery of the new ambulance. He also invited the wife of the mayor of Tonatico - Josefina Rubi Garcia – to join us for the presentation.

The ambulance is scheduled to be delivered in Mexico early next year. Miguel and other Tonatico Social Club members will drive the vehicle more than 2,000 to Mexico.

We are very grateful for Northbrook's efforts to help provide better emergency care to our neighbors to the south. I know the people of Tonatico will be very grateful for the sorely needed vehicle.



Defigresshark Northbrook and Village President Gene Marks, Josema Rubi Garcia and



Inside the ambulance with Josefina Rubi Garcia and Gene Marks